GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6817
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
NATIONAL WATER MISSION
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study had been conducted under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) to know the effects of climate change on water resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study conducted under the said plan has revealed that flow of water in rivers and water resources are going to decline in the coming years and if so, the details in this regard and the time by which water resources are likely to dry up, State wise; and

(d) whether such areas have also been identified under the said study which are likely to be converted into desert for want of water and if so, the action plan of the Government to prevent likely impact on people of these areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (PROF. SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) to (c) No, Madam. No study has been conducted to know the effects of climate change on water resources under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. However, a scientific study to assess the impact of climate change has been undertaken and a report titled "Climate Change and India: 4X4 Assessment - A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030s" was published in 2010 by the Government of India. The report has assessed impacts of climate change on four key sectors of Indian economy, including water resources in four climate sensitive regions of India, namely the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal Area and the North-East Region. The study projects a Water yield which is likely to increase for Himalayan region (5-20%) and central portion of North-Eastern region (0-25%), whereas it is likely to decrease for northern portion of North-Eastern region (12%), Western Ghats (5-50%) and Coastal region (less than 40%).

(d) No areas have been identified under this study which are likely to be converted into desert for want of water. However, National Water Mission (NWM) has been established by the Government of India with the objective of "conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distri- bution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management". Under Goal-III, NWM has identified 'expeditious implementation of water resources projects particularly the multipurpose projects with carryover storages benefitting drought prone and rain deficit areas' as one of its strategies.